

## CHAPTER 4 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community facilities and services provide the day-to-day needs of the village. They affect the health, safety and well-being of area residents and businesses. Denton provides several services directly to residents, other services are provided by outside regional or special purpose districts, such as schools and fire protection, and still others must be obtained in Lincoln, such as hospital services.

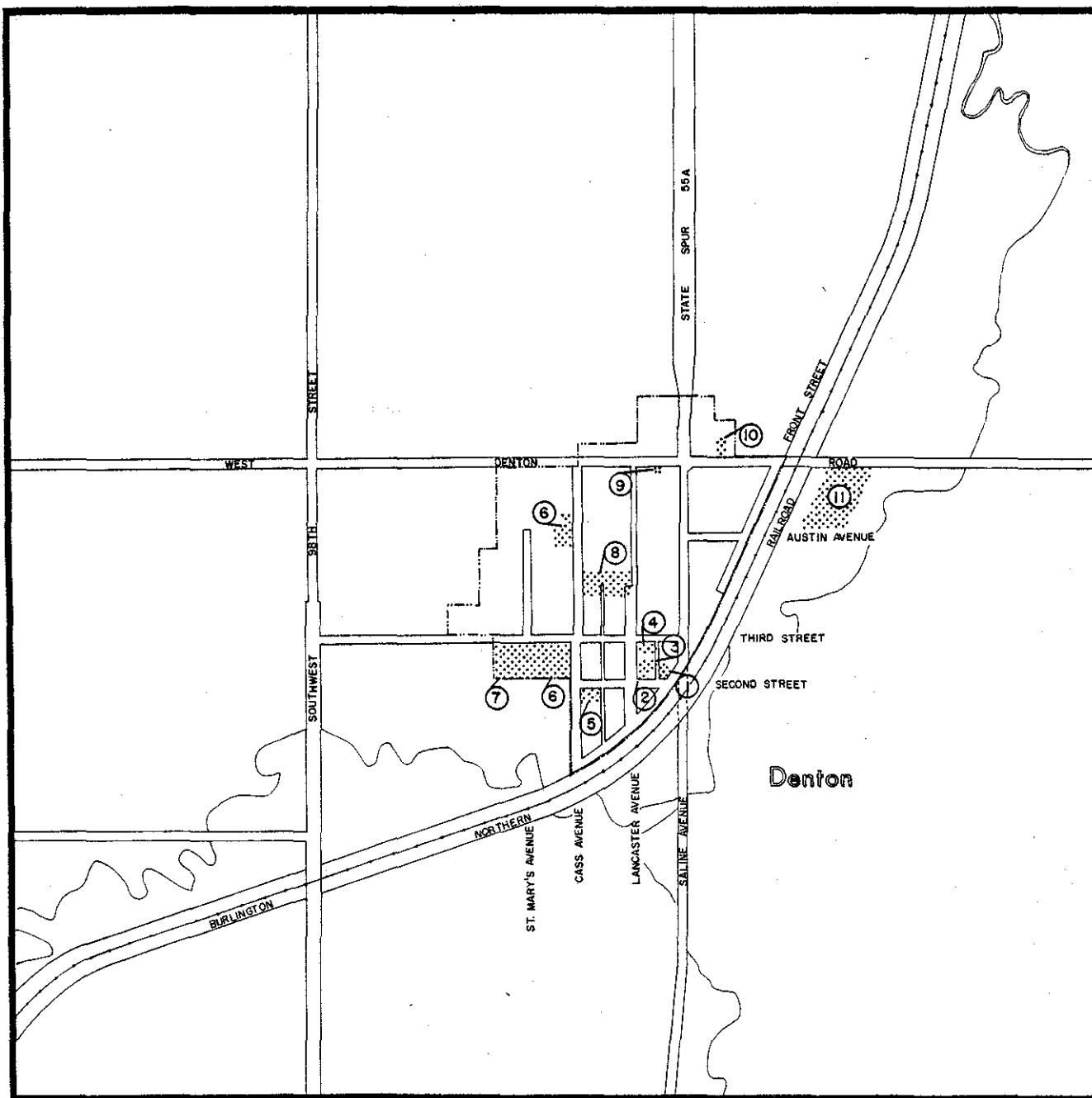
This chapter describes existing community services and facilities, discusses the community facility issues, and presents the year 2000 Community Facilities Plan.

### EXISTING COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Denton operates water and waste water systems. The waste water system, established in 1965, includes 6 and 8 inch collection lines and a two cell lagoon treatment facility. The water system, established in 1972, includes a pressure tank, 6 and 4 inch distribution lines, fire hydrants and a single well.

Denton has acquired the former school in Denton. The structure is used as the village hall. The old grounds include some playground equipment. In addition, a playground is located in the village center.

Services and facilities beyond the direct control of Denton include the following: school services are provided by the Crete Consolidated School District with all facilities now located in Crete. Private door-to-door solid waste collection service is available in the Denton area by private haulers with disposal at the Lincoln landfill. Fire and rescue protection is provided by the Southwest Fire Protection District with a station located in Denton. Police protection is provided by the County Sheriff and the State Patrol. With the proposed consolidation of the County road maintenance function the future of the County maintenance garage in Denton is uncertain. Library service is provided by the Lincoln-City Library System through a variety of means. The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department operates a "visiting nurse" program for the rural communities.



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|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| ① Fire Station      | ⑦ Cemetery                    |
| ② Playground        | ⑧ Former School               |
| ③ Legion Hall       | ⑨ Telephone Switching Station |
| ④ Post Office       | ⑩ County Maintenance Building |
| ⑤ Well & Pump House | ⑪ Sewage Lagoon               |
| ⑥ Church            |                               |

**Map 7**  
**EXISTING FACILITIES**



## COMMUNITY FACILITIES ISSUE

Continued improvement of locally based community facilities will be needed to better meet the needs of existing and future residents of Denton. Some improvements are absolutely necessary, while others might simply be desirable.

### Waste Water Service

The collection system should be adequate to serve the target population with simple gravity flow extensions to serve the growth area to the west. The lagoons are operating near capacity and immediate construction of an additional lagoon cell has been recommended.<sup>1</sup> Expansion of the treatment facility will certainly be needed to serve the needs of the year 2000 target population.

### Water Service

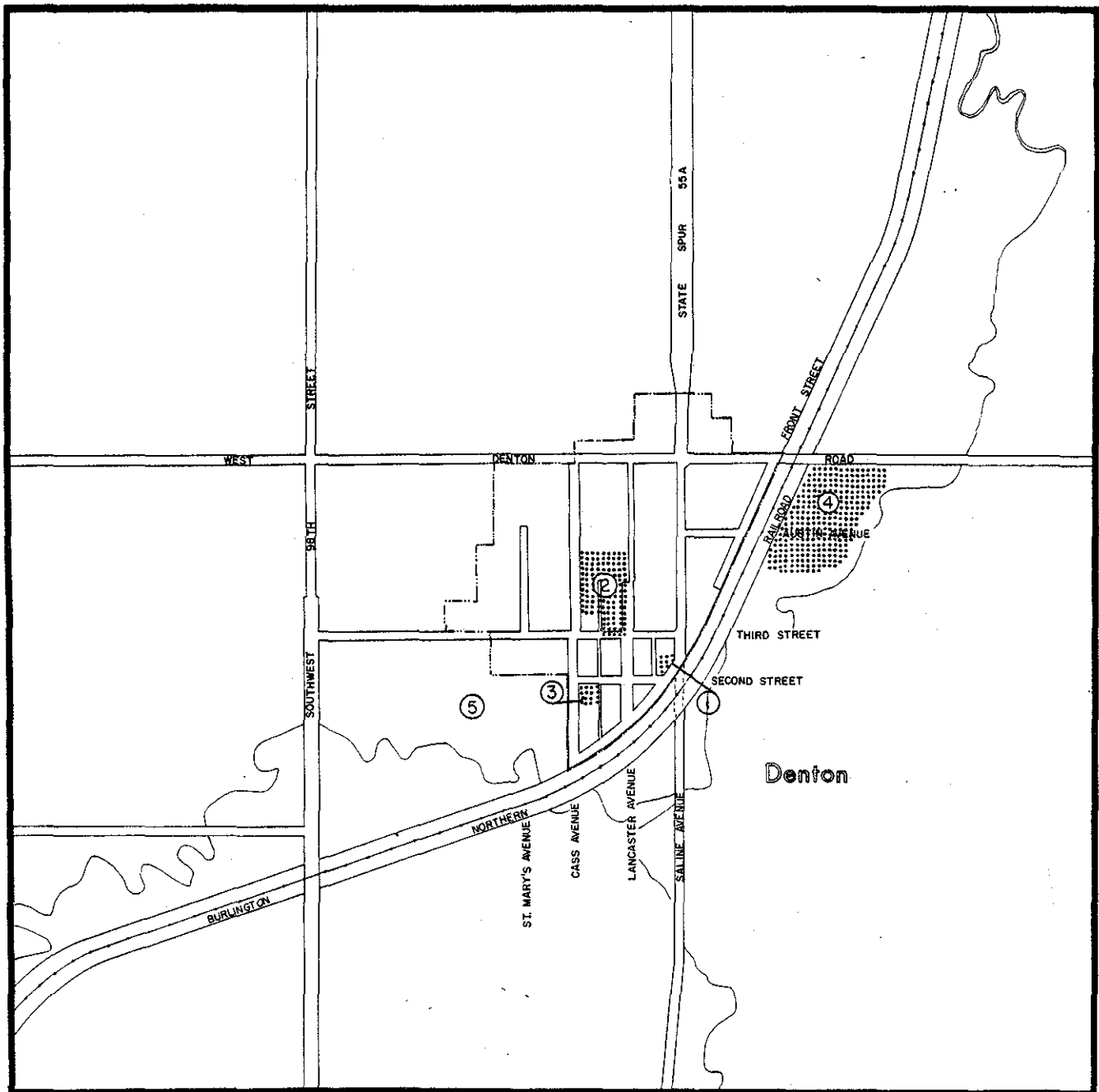
Water from the one well was sampled for water quality, December 1973.<sup>2</sup> Water quality exceeded limits recommended as "permissible" guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Health, Education, & Welfare for total dissolved solids and manganese. The water also suffers from hardness and alkalinity. There appears no easy solution to the problem of poor water quality. When the water system was originally proposed, alternatives to a local well, included Conestoga Lake as a possible supply and a rural water district. The treatment of the local ground water supply should be considered.

The pumping capacity of the well is approximately 300 gallons per minute, sufficient capacity to meet the needs of peak day consumption but not adequately meet the needs of fire protection. An existing proposal calls for the provision for an alternative power source, in the event of an electrical power outage, such as that generated from the power take-off on the village tractor. However, with only one well there is no standby source of water if the one well was to break down or even shut down for routine maintenance. No emergency water storage, such as an elevated water storage tank, exists.

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<sup>1</sup> Salt Creek Basin-Lincoln Metropolitan Area Water Quality Management, June 1973 and Lower Platte River Basin Water Quality Management Plan, June 1974.

<sup>2</sup> Nebraska Public Water Supply Information, Division of Environmental Engineering, Nebraska State Department of Health, March 1975.



- ① Fire Station
- ② Community & Recreation Center
- ③ Well & Pump House
- ④ Wastewater Treatment Plant
- ⑤ Future Park Site

**Map 8**  
**FACILITIES PLAN**



## Parks, Recreation and New Community Building

The Attitude Survey indicates that in general the most important need is for improved recreational facilities and programs. *The State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*, (Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, 1973) recommends that rural communities maintain at least 2.5 acres of park land per 100 population.

With a year 2000 population of 300 a total park space of 7.5 acres is needed by State recommendations. The former school site and the village center playground total less than 3 acres.

The first priority for future park addition is at the site of the former school, the new community building. Expansion at this site has the advantage of consolidating the major park area with the new community building at a central location within the residential area. At this writing the vacant tract north appears committed to housing. The area south should make a more attractive park addition because of a small swale and some trees. With expansion limited to a southerly direction, including the removal of one mobile home, the park site could be expanded to about 3 acres. Even with this expansion and the retention of the village center park, total village park area would remain below generally accepted minimum acreage guidelines.

The second priority for future park addition is the area generally southwest of town along Haines Branch. A new park in this area could be large enough to meet acreage guidelines and also provide an attractive park setting. However, this area, unlike the former school site, is poorly located with respect to the residential area and lacks "visibility".

Another possibility is the small swale north of town. However it would be more practical to develop this park site concurrently with other plans to develop north of town -- sometime beyond the year 2000.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLAN

The Community Facilities Plan, illustrated on Map 8, indicates the recommended location and distribution of more important public facilities which will be needed to serve the target population.

Water system improvements, after the provision for an alternative power source for the well and a second well, will be directed at improving water quality. The regular flushing of water mains and the looping of dead-end mains along with the treatment of the water supply will improve water quality. The provision of elevated water storage will wait until late in the planning period.

The waste water system improvements will include expansion of the treatment facility in the same general location. Extension of water and waste water lines will be made to serve the gradual development of new growth area.

Storm water runoff will be handled in existing drainage courses and eventually in street gutter pans and limited storm sewers where necessary to avoid dips in arterial and collector streets.

Recreational improvements will focus upon the former school building and surrounding area, transforming them into a joint community and recreation center. Later, the emphasis will turn to a possible new park southwest of town.

Other community services and facilities in their present form will continue to serve the community through the planning period. The churches, education and library service, and electrical and telephone systems will not be directly impacted by the plan.